



Brownfields 2006 Grant Fact Sheet

Burrillville, RI

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The Town of Burrillville was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. Established in 1806 in Providence County, Burrillville (population 15,796) is a rural community that quickly became a thriving mill town. During the height of the industrial revolution, there were 13 fully functioning mill villages operating simultaneously in the area. The Stillwater Mill, previously known as the Harrisville Woolen Mill, fabricated wool jackets for the military during the Civil War and World Wars I and II. After World War II, the textile industry declined, leaving behind environmental contamination and abandoned properties. The Stillwater Mill Complex site is located in Burrillville's most economically distressed census tract and directly across the street from an elementary school. The median household income in the tract is 20 percent



Cleanup Grant



\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Town of Burrillville for a brownfields cleanup grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to clean up contamination in the buildings and soil at the Stillwater Mill Complex site at 246 Harrisville Main Street. Grant funds will be used to develop cleanup plans, remove and dispose of waste, draft environmental land use restrictions, and monitor groundwater at this site which is contaminated by metals and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team

617-918-1424

<http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Town of Burrillville, RI
401-568-4300, ext. 130

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

less than the Providence County median, and a majority of the town's elderly residents live within walking distance of the site. Cleanup of the site will help reduce health risks to the two most vulnerable populations—children and seniors. Once the site is cleaned up, the town intends to build a new city library on the site which is expected to help anchor the redevelopment of the entire complex and residential community. Revitalization of the complex will add approximately \$70 million of new investment to the town, and create nearly 120 new jobs and greenspace.